

FORM B - BUILDING

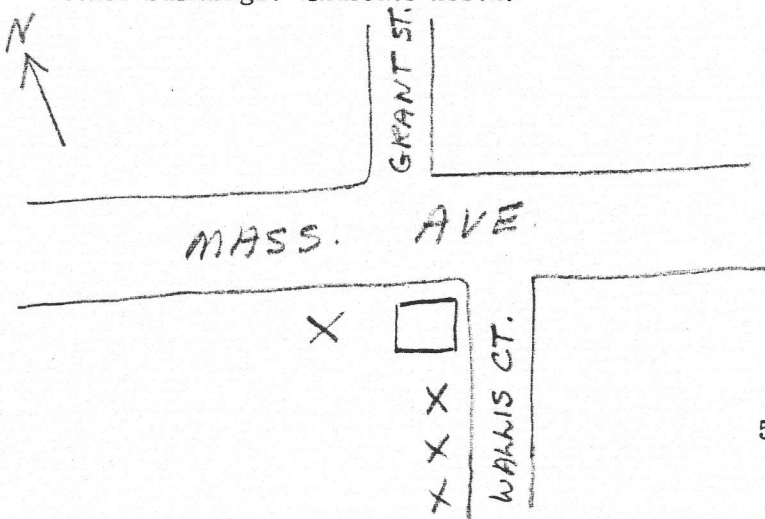
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
A	14



Lexington  
1644 Mass. Avenue  
Lewis Hunt Double House  
Offices  
owner  
1890's 1887  
Minute-man, Apr. 1, 1887  
Queen Anne

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboard & shingled  
 Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other features Built as a duplex-ridge roof  
three chimneys-shingle ornament in gable  
band of shingles extends around top of(over)  
 Altered Yes Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:  
 One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approximate frontage 30'  
 Approximate distance of building from street  
10'

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
 USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
 MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by Ruth Beebe  
 Organization Lexington Historical Commission  
 Date October 4, 1975

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Original use \_\_\_\_\_

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Other features cont; of building three feet wide - double bay on right with small drops from roof) - back porch (right side) has turned post & button Medallion trim - both front porches have been closed into rooms - left back porch has also been made into room - stone foundation.

Built between 1875 and 1889 (see corresponding maps). In 1889 it was owned by Lewis Hunt. It was this same Hunt who laid out and named Wallis Court (Wallis was his wife's maiden name).

For many years, until it was zoned commercially in 1929, it continued to be a two-family house.

S. Lawrence Whipple, 1984

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town  
LEXINGTON

Property Address  
1644 MASS. AVE.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

A	14
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## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The *Lexington Minute-man* of April 1, 1887 includes an apparent mention to the construction of this double house as well as that at 1629-32 Mass. Ave. (see #9):

We understand Mr. Lewis Hunt is intending to erect two double houses this spring to occupy sites on the Stevens estate on Main street, recently purchased by him.

Lewis Hunt (1843-1893) was a prosperous local hardware merchant who became a resident of Lexington in 1884. He owned considerable real estate in town and built the Hunt's Block at 1777-1793 Mass. Ave. in 1892 (razed in 1966).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Vol. 2, p. 316. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.  
*Lexington Minute-Man*, April 1, 1887.

Supplement prepared by:  
Lisa Mausolf  
March 2009